

**STATE SENATOR • HANSEN CLARKE • 1ST DISTRICT**

# **Clarke Press Release**

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STATE SEN. HANSEN CLARKE  
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## **DETROIT AREA HEROES HONORED AT THE STATE CAPITOL**

LANSING- State Senator Hansen Clarke (D-Detroit) held a special presentation in the Michigan Senate chamber on Thursday to honor three heroic young men from the Detroit area who pulled a tanker truck driver from his vehicle just prior to the gasoline laden truck exploding. Cedric Redus, Michael Travis and Latoris Shepard are credited with saving the life of truck driver Joel Puz, a father of three.

“It is my great pleasure to commend these three young gentlemen for the unselfish action they took at considerable risk to their own lives,” said Sen. Hansen Clarke. “We hear and read too much negativity about the youth of America. It’s an honor to present three heroic teenagers who stand in stark contrast to such negative stereotypes.”

The accident occurred on September 16 when Mr. Puz was traveling northbound on Highway I-75 at Clark Street. Mr. Puz swerved to avoid another car and his truck flipped on its side releasing 13,000 gallons of gasoline. The gasoline ignited shortly after Mr. Puz was pulled to safety.

Senator Clarke presented the young men with a Senate citation commending them for displaying “the highest standard of citizenship” and for providing the citizens of Michigan with a “notable lesson in human kindness.” The trio received a standing ovation from the Senate Chamber at the conclusion of Senator Clarke’s remarks.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Photos from the special presentation on Thursday, October 2 can be found attached to the electronic version of this release or found at the Senator’s website.